

years, and many stepped into classrooms for their first time ever.

When the Taliban government took control of Afghanistan in 1996, it immediately imposed a repressive interpretation of Islamic law, forbidding girls from attending school and women from teaching. For five years Afghan girls were denied the basic right to education. Only 32 percent of Afghanistan's 4.4 million children were enrolled in school in 1999. Almost all girls, 92 percent, were not in school.

We have all heard of the courageous stories of former female teachers operating illegal schools out of their homes, teaching young girls basic math and writing. Women all over the country refused to give up their right to be educated and to educate. A survey conducted by UNICEF at the end of last year found there were almost 600 home-based schools in Kabul alone. The women and girls that kept learning through illegal home schools must be commended for their courage and bravery.

This is a time of hope for women and girls in Afghanistan. Education is important to the life of all nations. March 23 marked a new beginning for Afghan women and girls, and a new beginning for the entire country.

IN HONOR OF THE GARFIELD
HEIGHTS JUNIOR WOMEN'S
LEAGUE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Garfield Heights Junior Women's League. The league deserves the highest praise for its years of service to the citizens of Garfield Heights.

In 1952, thirteen women met to discuss the formation of an organization that would be dedicated to community involvement. The result was the Garfield Heights Junior Women's League which grew dramatically over the years. In the past five decades, long lasting friendships were created and civic engagement has been greatly enhanced as hundreds of women became involved in GHJWL projects. Founder Evelyn Hubert and several of the original charter members are still active participants.

The Garfield Heights Junior Women's League remains an invaluable resource today, assisting with countless civic activities. The League raised thousands of dollars to assist such projects as the G.H. Fire Department and the Boys and Girls Baseball League. It also awarded over \$30,000 in scholarships to local high school graduates and provides monthly checks to needy families in Garfield Heights. In 2001, the league was recognized for its admirable work when it was selected as "Organization of the Year" by the Garfield Heights Chamber of Commerce.

My fellow Colleagues, I respectfully submit this tribute to the Garfield Heights Junior Women's League. For the past fifty years the League has lived up to its motto, "The only happiness you keep is the happiness you give away."

IN HONOR OF THE FIRST LATIN
HEALTH MINISTRIES DEVELOP-
MENT PROJECT HEALTH FAIR

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the First Latin Health Ministries Development Project Health Fair, a great opportunity to promote and provide health care information to the Latino community. The event took place on April 6, 2002, at New Horizons International Church.

Latino churches have united to sponsor health care initiatives in communities throughout New Jersey, where health care disparities exist in minority populations. The health fair will help communities work towards a more effective and just health care situation for all citizens. Access to quality health care is a right, not a privilege, and I'm proud to support the project's efforts.

Under the leadership of the Community Development Center for the Planning and Actualization of Sustainable Programs and Projects, Inc.'s (PASP, Inc.) President, Reverend Jose C. Lopez, the First Annual Health Fair will become a reality, demonstrating a commitment to public health. This event was possible through the sponsorship of the New Jersey Department of Health & Senior Services, Office of Minority and Multicultural Health, and the Community Development Center—PASP, Inc.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the First Latin Health Ministries Development Project Health Fair, working towards effective and quality health care for all.

HONORING DAIRY INDUSTRY OF
CALIFORNIA

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Dairy Industry of California on the occasion of being honored for their support of the Diabetic Youth Foundation. An event to honor the dairy industry will be sponsored by Rob and Jeannie Hilarides of the Sierra Cattle Company to benefit the Diabetic Youth Foundation.

Rob and Jeannie Hilarides have been touched by the cause on a personal level. Their daughter, Hannah, has Type I diabetes. Their pain and suffering has led them into taking an active role to battle the disease, not only for their daughter, but for other children as well. The Hilarides have given support financially and have also brought the cause to the attention of the dairy people. Through them, the industry has become very involved in support of the Diabetic Youth Foundation.

Recently, a study has found that the California Dairy Industry contributes 122,300 jobs and \$17.5 billion to the State's economy. The industry has been very instrumental in creating opportunities for jobs within the state. The same study found that for every two jobs on a California dairy farm, three more jobs are created off the farm through the purchase of

goods and services. Despite these economical contributions, the dairy industry has made numerous charitable contributions, specifically to the Diabetic Youth Foundation.

The Diabetic Youth Foundation provides year-round educational programs for families affected by diabetes. The financial assistance is advantageous to the foundation and has allowed them to accept children in spite of the child's financial situation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the California Dairy Industry for its contributions to the community. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking the Industry, and the Hilarides, for their continued support of the Diabetic Youth Foundation.

HONORING THE STATE CHAMPION
LADY BLUE DEVILS

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Jackson County Lady Blue Devils, who recently won an unprecedented third straight Class AA girls basketball state championship.

Such a feat deserves much respect. The team of highly motivated players went 33–4 this season, capping a championship season with a resounding 47–28 win over a tough Giles County team. This season also marked the most successful in the program's history.

Despite having won back-to-back championships in the previous two years, the Lady Blue Devils were not expected to finish No. 1. But the team's determination and hard work proved to be a winning combination that no opponent could overcome in the state tournament.

Residents of Jackson County, Tennessee, can be proud of the accomplishments of the Lady Blue Devils, who became the first Class AA team to win three straight titles. I commend the team and its coach, Jim Brown, for an outstanding season and a remarkable achievement.

The following are the members of the 2001–2002 state champion Lady Blue Devils: Andrea Davidson, Emily Lane, Deanna Apple, Alyssa Bowman, Jennifer Harris, Ashley Hopkins, Megan Pepper, Courtney Childress, Sheena Hager, Marissa Hensley, Amanda Naff, Kayla Olson, Candace Stafford, Allison Richardson, managers Lucy Anderson, Dot Chambers, Stephene Clayton, Andrea McMillan, Miles Stewart and trainer Shawn Moffitt. Kelly Coe and Barbara Brown also serve as the team's assistant coaches.

HONORING MONSIGNOR OSCAR A.
ROMERO

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Monsignor Oscar A. Romero, El Salvador's patron of peace, justice and liberation, on the 22nd Anniversary of his assassination. Monsignor Romero, Archbishop of El Salvador, dedicated his life to the social and economic liberation of the poor. It is an honor for